

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 1 and 3-6.

The outstanding Office Action indicates that the IDS submitted on September 22, 2003 was not considered because an authorization to charge a fee of \$180.00 to the deposit account #15-0030 was not given. Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants respectfully resubmit the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 22, 2003 with the appropriate check for the fee of \$180.00 for submission under 37 CFR 1.17(p) enclosed herewith.

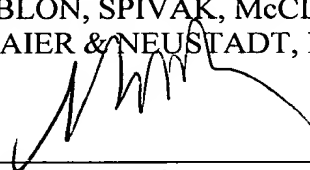
In response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claim 1 and 3-6 are amended to correct the noted informalities, as suggested by the Examiner. In view of the amended claims, it is believed that all pending claims are definite and no further rejection on that basis is anticipated. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work with the Examiner in a joint effort to derive mutually acceptable language.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-6 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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